

Welfare of Ex-servicemen in Kota, Bundi and Banra, Rajasthan

2428. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-Servicemen in Kota, Bundi and Banra districts in Rajasthan and the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation and welfare;

(b) whether any complaints of ex-servicemen regarding pension etc. have been received by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) As per the information received from the Government of Rajasthan, the approximate number of ex-Servicemen in Kota, Bundi and Banra districts is 7980 (Kota : 4250, Bundi : 2170 and Banra : 1560).

There is a comprehensive package of resettlement and welfare measures for the ex-Servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts in the Central Government Departments as well as Public Sector Undertakings, including the Nationalised Banks. Defence Services personnel who have been disabled in war or in peace-time, and whose disability is attributable to military service, are accorded Priority-I, while upto two dependents of Defence Services personnel killed in service or severely disabled (with over 50% disability and who have become unfit for employment but disability is attributable to military service) whether during war or peace-time, are given priority immediately below the disabled ex-Servicemen, i.e. Priority-II(a). Rajasthan Government has also provided for reservation in civil posts for ex-Servicemen. Besides, a number of schemes are in existence to provide self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen. These include the SEMFEX-I scheme which provides financial assistance to ex-Servicemen for setting small industrial

projects; the SEMFEX-II scheme to encourage ex-Servicemen to take up gainful farm and non-farm activities in rural areas; allotment of Petroleum product agencies; allotment of Unit Trust of India agencies, etc.

Ex-Servicemen are authorised free medical facilities in military hospitals and canteen facilities at the nearest CSD canteens. Children of Defence personnel killed or disabled in action are entitled to free educational facilities such as fees, hostel charges, cost of uniform, etc. 15% concession in rail fare for travel in second class is given to war widows. Recipients of gallantry awards are given 50% concession for air and rail travel in second class. Financial assistance for construction of houses and marriage of daughter is given to war widows, war disabled and attributable peace-time casualties by the State Government and the Kendriya Sainik Board. In addition, ex-Servicemen and their widows who are in penury are given financial assistance out of the welfare funds at the disposal of the Ministry of Defence and the Rajya Sainik Boards. Grants are also given for special medical treatment.

(b) and (c) There is a special Pension Grievances Cell in the Ministry of Defence to deal with the complaints of ex-Servicemen regarding pension and other related matters. Prompt action is taken by this Cell on the complaints received and a suitable reply is sent to the complainants concerned. Out of the three complaints received during 1991 (upto July, 1991) from the ex-Servicemen dependents of Kota and Bundi districts, two are regarding grant of pension and one relates to grant of family pension.

[English] *Administrative*

Setting up of High Level Committee to Review the Set up C & A G

2429. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a high level Committee to review the entire set up of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India;